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New Buffalo Times

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SLOW AND STEADY...

CYCLISTS UNITE FOR ANNUAL APPLE CIDER CENTURY RIDE

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Art at The Acorn to feature Novak's exhibition, 'And/Or'

The Acorn Center for the Performing Arts will transform into a visual art space when it welcomes its next artist, Debbie Novak, and her exhibit, "And/Or," as part of its initiative, Art at The Acorn.

In her new series, Novak uses her work to communicate that most things in life hold multiple truths simultaneously.

"And/Or" will be on view October through December at The Acorn. The artist will be celebrated with an Open House from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, with an Artist Talk and Q&A at 1p.m. moderated by Janet Davies. The Open House is free and open to the public. No tickets are required to attend.

A Graphic Design degree from University of Illinois Chicago expanded Novak's creative skills and interests and launched her into a world of visual communication. Photography, typography and composition dug deep under her skin and became a way of seeing the world and telling its stories. As editor of a music 'zine in the '80s and during a long career as a high school photography and design teacher, she has always made work that tells us something about ourselves or each other. It is the powerful ability of art to communicate that sparks all of Novak's art, regardless of materials.

Since ending her teaching career, Novak has dedicated her time to courses and projects in book arts and printmaking.

Novak has released the following artistic statement:

"My work speaks of people, words and experiences, evoking feelings that are sometimes difficult to pin down, yet feel somehow familiar. The pieces have never been made to tell stories. In reality, they are often no more than small collections of the evidence of being human, bound together intuitively by materials and inspired by everyday language.

In the collage work are photos left at thrift stores, jewelry lost in the street, or messages torn from a notebook. Among the curiosities and good luck charms, I often include my own photographs of empty places and lost souls. These collage and constructed works are my reflections on events involving human hearts and overheard conversations. Each one tells me exactly what it wants me to know.

The print and encaustic works are made loosely and contain phrases, images and thoughts designed to delight or perplex. The letterpress work combines uncommon images and irreverent phrases. My handmade books are constructed to draw the viewer into the page and then press them to decipher the content. There are never any easy answers in my work, yet they are all inviting questions."

The Acorn remains open for artist submissions for consideration for a future exhibition. Artwork exhibitions rotate once approximately every three months.

For more information, visit www.acornlive.org/art-at-the-acorn/. The Acorn is located at 107 Generations Drive in Three Oaks.

— STAFF REPORTS

Some people you "know" are adorned only on the outside but as they are in their hearts, are wretched, agents of disinformation, counterfeit. *— Dino N. Fatouros*

'The Third Man' to be screened at New Buffalo library

"The Third Man" will be screened at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13, at the New Buffalo Township Library, 33 N. Thompson Street in New Buffalo.

The film will be shown after some brief introductory remarks by Eve Moran, leader of the Harbor Country Film Group. The free program is open to the public and should appeal to film buffs as well as anyone who enjoys a good mystery.

"The Third Man" is considered a true cinematic masterpiece. Released in 1949, it takes the viewer to post-war Vienna, where American writer Holly Martins (Joseph Cotton) finds himself investigating the mysterious death of his friend, and black-market opportunist, Harry Lime (Orson Welles). The film is based on a story and script by Graham Greene, and includes breathtaking black and white cinematography, powerful performances, and yes, unforgettable zither music.

Hosted by Eve Moran, the New Buffalo Township Library features one film each month. Moran provides background and insight into each film, but she never reveals the story.

For more information, or to be added to the email notice list, please contact Tom at nbtlevents@gmail.com. — STAFF REPORTS

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
The Board meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

Firefighters called back to compost fire flare up

BY STAN MADDUX

A still smoldering composting pile fire in La Porte flared back up with two separate responses from firefighters after they wrapped up their five days of around the clock duties there.

Firefighters responded Saturday and Sunday for a few hours each time after the fire knocked down substantially came roaring back.

Assistant Fire Chief Kelly Burke said much of the pile operated by the La Porte County Solid Waste District had been dismantled, spread out and soaked with water prior to firefighters leaving about 7 a.m. on Friday, September 26.

The flare ups were in a section of the pile still intact and generating heat from decaying grass clippings, leaves, branches and trees below ground level.

What was left is roughly one-third the original size of the burning pile along Zigler Road near the La Porte County Fairgrounds.

"There's still quite a bit of material there," Burke said.

The district is now in charge of contacting local contractors to have their heavy machinery operators return and take apart what's left of the pile so that burning material can be drenched in water.

"We're going to try to not be there unless the operators that are there need us," he said.

La Porte County Solid Waste District Executive Director Clay Turner said he expects the backhoes and excavators used extensively last week to return soon to finish dismantling the pile.

"We're going to have to probably start that in a couple of days," he said.

The composting site is open to the public for dumping yard waste and used by the La Porte County Highway Department for disposing of fallen trees and limbs.

No dumping of any green waste has been allowed since the beginning of the fire on September 21.

When the composting site will accept organic material again has not been decided.

Turner said strategies that could include restricting the size of the pile by accepting less yard waste will be developed to keep such fires from happening again.

Currently, Turner said the amount of compost and mulch sold to the public from the pile along with firewood is far less than the volume of green waste disposed of at the site.

"We take in way more than we can get rid of," he said.

Turner said another possibility is reducing the number of days the site is open for yard waste disposal from six to three.

"There's going to be all kinds of options on the table and we'll review what we think is best for our community and for our site," he said.

Turner said he's already begun efforts to see if the district's insurance carrier will cover the cost of things like the heavy machinery operators for their work at the site.

The amount of that expense was still being tallied.

"Somebody's got to pay for that and we're hoping the insurance pays for it," he said.

I got a boss mentality. *— Lil Baby*

TWO PEOPLE KILLED IN MOTORCYCLE CRASH

It appears a motorcycle may have been operating erratically at high speeds moments before the driver and his passenger were killed in a collision with a guard rail.

That's according to La Porte Police judging by the findings of their investigation into the Sept. 27 crash.

Dylan Anderson, 31, and Toni Stephens, 32, both of Michigan City died in the 9 p.m. collision on McClung Road east of Indiana 39.

Police said the investigation shows Anderson pulled out of Fox Park and soon veered into the opposite lane of the two lane road to pass a westbound vehicle from behind.

While returning to the proper lane, the motorcycle clipped the front end of the vehicle Anderson was passing, police said.

A few seconds later, police said Anderson left the road and struck a guardrail.

Anderson was pronounced dead at the scene while Stephens, who was located at the bottom of a hill against a tree stump, was taken to Northwest Health and died a short time later.

Investigators were still waiting for blood test results to determine if alcohol or drugs were a factor in the collision. — Stan Maddux

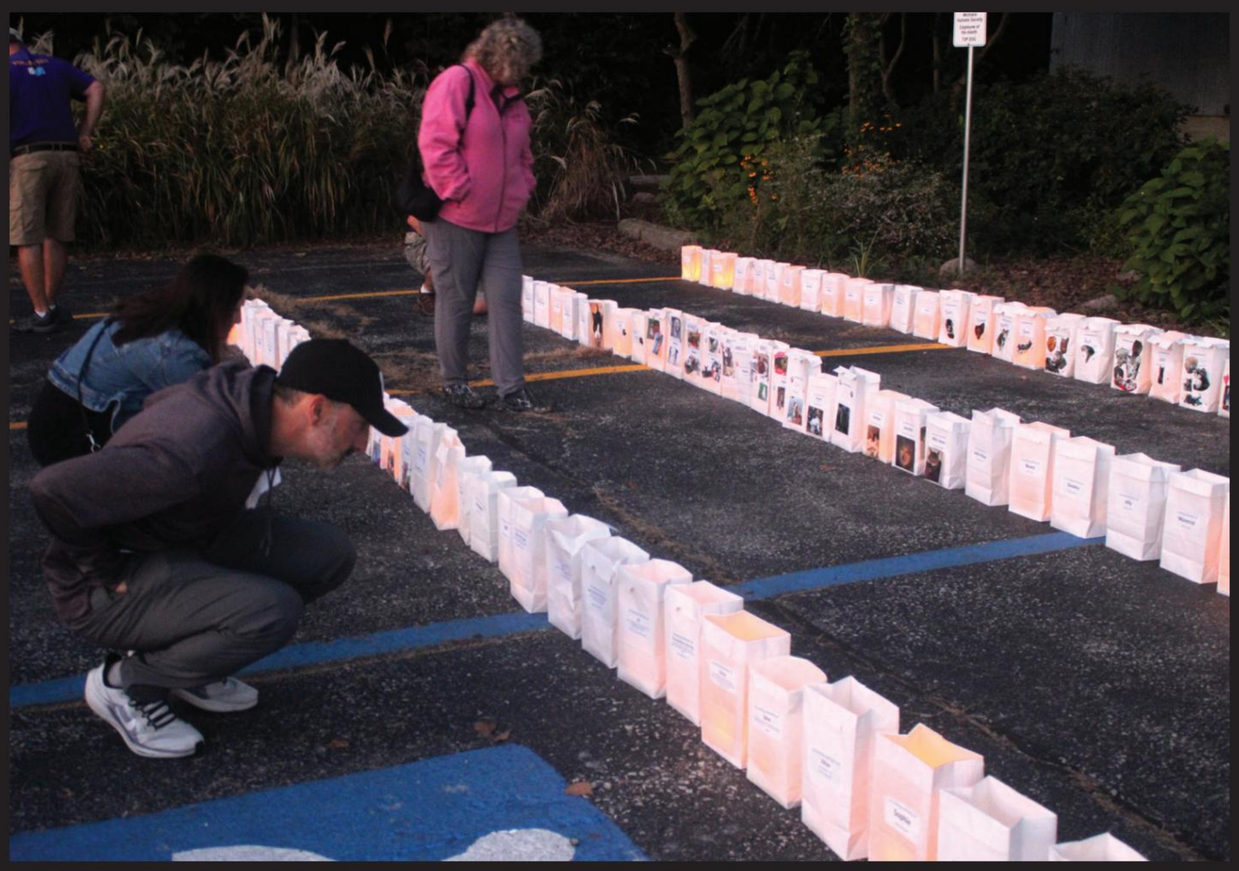
MHS's kennal staff lights the luminarias

Admiring the luminarias that are lit for the animals

Johanna Humbert leads a prayer for the animals

A row of luminarias pay tribute to pets

Rick Burns and Laura Boss pose with Rocky



Luminarias light up the night

Lighting the night for the animals at 'Remember Me Thursday'

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Year after year, Michiana Humane Society Executive Director Johanna Humbert said that a lot of people return to the animal shelter for "Remember Me Thursday."

"It's not that they lose a pet every year, it's that this is a comfort and a nice way to be together with people who love animals," she said.

Returning to his old stomping grounds at the shelter's 12th observance of the event, which was Thursday, Sept. 25, was Batty.

Katie Wilson, who was there with her daughter, Monroe, said that they brought Batty with them to light luminarias for other pets that they'd lost.

After losing another pit bull, Kirby, they started volunteering at MHS and, by accident, met Batty.

After taking Batty out for some Fetch Some Fun excursions, Katie said they agreed to be a foster family for him.

"By two weeks into fostering, I already knew I didn't want to give him back," she said.

She said Batty was found chained up with 10 or 12 other dogs. For about a year, he was kept with animal control while a criminal case was conducted.

"That's why he's so excited to be here – they loved on him so hard, he has a positive association with this place," Katie, who said that Batty is visually impaired, said.

Laura Boss and Rick Burns, who were there with their Chihuahua Rocky, said that they had each lit a luminaria for three of their dogs, one of whom they'd adopted from MHS.

Altogether, they currently have four dogs at home, all of whom are under 25 pounds and have been adopted from shelters: two from Porter County Animal Shelter, one from Lakeshore Paws and another from Erin's Angels in Michigan.

"It's just important for us to give back to the animals and try to help keep as many out of the shelters as we can," Boss said.

Humbert, who said that around 300 luminarias were purchased this year to support MHS, said that the shelter's volunteers, board members and staff care for the animals 365 days a year.

Due to space constraints, Humbert said that sometimes, the shelter can't accept an animal when the owner surrenders them and "it becomes a strain on the shelter for the amount of money it costs to care for the animals and on the staff and volunteers for working so hard to get every animal ready to find a home."

Most of the time, MHS is successful at finding a home; sometimes, not.

"Tonight, we're remembering the animals that didn't find a home while you remember your beloved pets," Humbert said.

New Buffalo Harvest Fest coming next weekend

In Southwest Michigan, nothing says "autumn" quite like the harvesting of fully ripened crops and plump fruits.

In preparation and celebration of this plentiful season, the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce and Criterion Productions is hosting the New Buffalo Harvest Fest from noon to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, along Whittaker Street between Merchant and Mechanic streets, in downtown New Buffalo.

Representing all that the season has to offer, the Harvest Fest boasts an abundance of family-friendly activities including nonstop live music, unique art and makers vendors, farm market vendors, award-winning wines from Southwest Michigan, local beer and hard seltzers, tasty fare from area restaurants and food trucks, pumpkin painting, kid's games, dancing and more.

Live music includes Rick King's Royal Hustle (7 p.m.), The Edgar Willbury Experience (5 p.m.), The Back Ups (3 p.m.) Johnny V (1:15 p.m.) and Intonation (12:15 p.m.)

Planned over Indigenous Peoples Day weekend for those with an extended three-day weekend, the New Buffalo Harvest Fest will serve as a focal point in downtown New Buffalo. For suggested lodging, contact Blue Fish Vacations and Third Coast Vacations.

The suggested donation at the gate is $10 per person. Children 12 and under are free.

For updates and more information, visit www.nbharvestfest.com or call 773-791-1809. Since the event can't be run without volunteers, those who are interested in volunteering should visit the website. — STAFF REPORTS

HIKERS TO EXPLORE LOVE CREEK NATURE CENTER

Led by Berrien County Parks Naturalists, the annual Berrien County Parks Fall Tour will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4.

Hikers will watch the fall colors change, while learning some interesting facts about our parks and the wildlife they support. This "Splash of Color Hikes" tour will begin at the Love Creek Nature Center and will lead hikers through some of the most memorable fall county trails.

The 2.0-hike has been rated as moderate to difficult and should last about two hours.

Besides the Nature Center, mountain bike and well-groomed cross country ski trails and winter fat-tire bike trails (ski and bike rentals available), the natural features of this park include around 200 acres of meadows, mature forests, marshes and creek.

Although membership in Harbor Country Hikers is preferred, all are welcome to attend this hike.

Dress for the weather, wear a sun hat and sturdy shoes or boots, preferred pest controls and bring plenty of water.

For more information, including driving directions to the Love Creek Nature Center visit the Hikers' website, www.harborcountryhikers.org, or its Facebook page. — STAFF REPORTS

Antique farm equipment heist at Ag Museum

BY STAN MADDUX

An antique Allis-Chalmers tractor and other pieces of old farm machinery made by the same company were taken from a La Porte area museum featuring technology used in agriculture dating back to the 1800s.

"Somebody knew what they were going after," said the victim, Paul Rymer of Mill Creek.

The thefts happened at the Rumely Allis-Chalmers La Porte Heritage Center along Indiana 2 next to the fairgrounds.

Rymer, a long time Allis-Chalmers collector, said the stolen items included an Allis Chalmers G model tractor probably from the 1950's and a lawn mower tractor likely produced in the late 70's or early 80's.

He said the G model tractor had a full set of cultivators on it.

"It was kind of rare. You don't find them usually together," he said.

Also taken were two sickle bar cutters once used to cut hay, a front axle assembly from a tractor, a portable power unit and a two row planter.

Rymer said he purchased the items from an auction in June of last year and took them to the museum about a year later to display during a show.

He was one of the founders of the museum built in 2014 and still serves on the board of directors.

Originally, La Porte County Police said the items were displayed in the museum parking lot but later moved next to a tree line on the property where other equipment was placed for viewing.

Rymer told investigators the items were still on display two weeks ago but vanished sometime before he showed up at the museum again on Saturday.

"Every piece was gone," he said.

Since there were no drag marks left on the ground, police said heavy equipment was likely used to pick up the pieces and place them on a trailer for transport away from the site.

Rymer said none of the engines on the tractors were running since they were strictly for display.

"They had to spend some time out there to load this stuff up and take it away," he said.

Rymer estimated the value of the stolen items at roughly $10,000.

Police are hoping to find surveillance video that may have been taken during the heist to provide a major break in the case.

Rymer said his love for Allis-Chalmers equipment dates back to when his wife, who grew up on a farm, worked at the plant in La Porte for 10 years before the doors shut in the early 1980's.

He also visited the plant on a regular basis to work on the telephones as an employee of GTE, the General Telephone and Electronics Corporation.

The museum also features tractors and other machinery produced by Rumely, a former leading La Porte based producer of farm equipment beginning in the late 1800's.

Rymer said the museum owns just two of the many pieces of machinery and memorabilia that came from private owners.

The museum is open every first Friday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

Will someone please pinch me.

This week in Chicago sports, unless I was dreaming, was about as good as it could get.

The Cubs swept the Cardinals to secure the home field advantage for their three playoff game series against the San Diego Padres. Then, on Sunday, the Bears won their second straight game, a come from behind victory over the Las Vegas Raiders. Ouch! It's true, I wasn't dreaming.

The Bears and the Cubs both came up with clutch victories in the same week. Could this be the beginning of a new era? Let's not count our chickens yet, but our optimism is not misguided.

While both teams came through when they needed to, there were certainly some missteps along the way.

Let's begin with the Cubs. The first half of the season was awesome. It seemed like everyone on the team was hitting. They were in first place and seemed to be cruising to the playoffs. Then, all of a sudden, everyone went into a slump. Injuries, poor hitting and pitching, and a suddenly hot Milwaukee team dropped the Cubs out of the lead.

Eventually, they started to hit again, and manager Craig Counsell managed the pitching staff beautifully and they went into the final weekend of the season having to beat their hated rivals, the Saint Louis Cardinals, in order to open the playoffs at home.

I'm happy to report that the Cubs swept the Cardinals and the playoffs at beautiful Wrigley Field this week are a reality.

The Bears season has been a roller coaster ride so far this season. Hopes were high with the new coaching staff, but the opening game against the Vikings saw them blow a lead and lose.

The second game was a complete disaster. The Lions pummeled the Bears and the fans began thinking that the coach, quarterback, and team were pretenders. The coaching staff didn't agree and came up with a game plan to trounce the Cowboys, making fans think that the team had turned the corner.

If the Bears could beat the Raiders, they would even their record at 2-2 going into the week 5 bye week. Even though the Bears ended up beating the Raiders, there were plenty of things that need improvement. The reality is this season will probably have a series of ups and downs as the coaching staff gets to know the players and vice versa.

The biggest reasons for optimism, in my opinion, are coach Ben Johnson and manager Craig Counsel.

While their decisions aren't always obvious to us, it seems like they are almost always a step or two ahead of their opponents. Both teams have suffered a lot of injuries and both teams need to add more and better depth, but the players seem to know when it's clutch time, they will be in the right position.

Mark Twain said, "Go to Heaven for the climate, Hell for the company."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

Lijewski explodes for still undefeated Raiders in football

BY STAN MADDUX

Sophomore quarterback Colten Lijewski gained a combined over 500 yards passing and running to help keep the Red Arrow Raiders undefeated in high school football.

The Raiders (5-0) defeated Fennville 42-14 in a road game Friday, Sept. 26.

Lijewski opened up the scoring with an 80 yard touchdown run then completed a 24 yard pass to senior Cooper Lynch in the end zone before the end of the first quarter.

In second quarter, the Raiders scored again on a 15 yard pass into the end zone from Lijewski to senior Lucas Forker.

The Raiders went into a halftime in spectacular fashion when Lynch after catching a screen pass from Lijewski ran more than 60 yards for a touchdown to make the score 28-0 as the second quarter game clock expired

Fennville, though, came back with two touchdowns in the third quarter to pull within 28-14 to start the fourth quarter.

Lijewski proved too much with two more touchdown runs of 61 yards and 28 yards.

He finished with 340 yards passing and 212 yards rushing.

Johnson said his passing yardage set a New Buffalo High School and Raiders record since the Bison and River Valley merged their football programs a few years ago.

Lynch had nine receptions for 254 yards.

Johnson said his receiving yards were also River Valley and Raiders records and so are the 10 receiving touchdowns Lynch has recorded, so far, this season.

"The kids battled. They were resilient. They did what they needed to do and put the game away in the fourth quarter," said Raiders Head Coach Matt Johnson.

Lynch also helped lead the way on defense with 11 total tackles.

Forker had 10 tackles, including five for lost yardage, and 4.5 quarterback sacks.

Trevor James added nine tackles while Hunter Gnodtke, Travis James, John Bradshaw and Keio Trimm had anywhere from seven to four tackles apiece.

The Raiders play again Friday in South Haven against NorthPointe Christian School.

Historically, NorthPoint Christian (3-2) is a solid program with two losses this season but two of their three victories came against opponents the Raiders previously defeated by similar margins.

Johnson said he believes the game against the Mustangs could be the biggest test for his team, so far, this season.

He said one of the challenges will be for his players not to look ahead to their Oct. 17 game at home against Bridgman, a rival with a more dominant program over the years that the Raiders want to beat.

"I'm just trying to keep our kids focused on one game at a time," he said.

I believe in maximum flexibility, so I reserve the right to change my position on any subject when the external environment relating to any topic changes too. — *Henry Singleton*

Goods & Heroes to open Yarn Haus

Goods & Heroes owner Suzanna Bierwirth and fiber artist Stacy Nelson are opening Yarn Haus, a yarn store specializing in natural fibers, Friday, Oct. 10.

Yarn Haus, located within Goods & Heroes at 7 Maple St. in Three Oaks, will offer classes and community Knit Together events in addition to yarns from around the world.

"Mother Nature and community are the cornerstone of our passion for making and living a creative life," Bierwirth said.

The Yarn Haus specializes in natural fibers from animals and plants.

"It is important to us to know where our products are coming from," Bierwirth said. "The first purchase we made was 20 beautiful skeins of undyed, hand-spun wool from local Michigan fiber farmer Vera Videnowich. Then we started talking to the producers and companies that bring us yarns from all over the world: Peru, Uruguay, Argentina, Shetland, Norway, Denmark, Turkey, Germany, Italy, even Japan and Nepal, in addition to the Canadian and American growers who are very important to us."

Nelson said the store will carry as many local fibers as possible.

"At the Allegan County Fiber Festival, we met angora and alpaca farmers from the Midwest. We're always on the lookout to find more local and regional yarns," she said.

"To us, this is really just the beginning. The world of yarn and its production is big, challenging, and filled with many stories. Once you enter it, you are hooked. Pun intended," Bierwirth added.

Bierwirth and Nelson are seeking input and support from their peers in the Harbor Country yarn community.

"We want to connect with all of you and learn from our community," Bierwirth said. "If you know of yarn we should offer, please introduce us to the makers. Also, we are still trying to find a crochet teacher. If that is you, please contact us."

A Three Oaks resident, Bierwirth opened Goods & Heroes in 2016. The store offers a wide range of maker-made objects and art as well as timeless clothing, footwear, and accessories for men and women. Makers include clothing artist Catherine Doll of Sawyer; Cynthia Ashby from Woodstock, Illinois; Privatsachen from Hamburg, Germany; and CYDWOQ, a handmade shoe company from Northern California.

Goods and Heroes Owner Suzanna Bierwirth with Stacy Nelson

"I am a big supporter of the slow and mindful fashion movement. We showcase many makers who create one-of-a-kind pieces or entirely hand-made lines. And every fall I work with a group called MIA Peru, Mothers In Action, that hand-knits alpaca sweaters for us." Bierwirth said. "Extending our offering into yarn is a natural next step for me.

Nothing is more lasting than a garment you created yourself. Nothing is more satisfying than to make something with your own hands."

Bierwirth said crafting runs in her DNA.

"From knitted Icelandic sweaters to the most intricate lacework and needlepointed handkerchiefs, to colorful crocheted Afghan shawls, the women I was surrounded by in my childhood would always have a project in their lap," she said.

She grew up in Altena, a small town in Westphalia, Germany, best known as the place where Addi, the worldwide leader and innovator of steel knitting needles and crochet hooks, has been making their goods since 1829.

Nelson grew up on a farm in upstate New York, where knitting was introduced to her as a child. Her passion for it grew into adulthood, and she is currently enrolled in the Master Hand Knitter Program of the Knitting Guild Association.

Fiber arts has led her down many paths, including being a shepherdess for her own small flock of sheep used for hand-spinning. Though her shepherdess days are over for now, her passion for all things fiber remains: dyeing, spinning, weaving, and felting.

Tending to her small flock of sheep and processing her own yarn instilled a deep appreciation for the labor and time involved in producing high-quality sustainable yarn.

Nelson's career outside of fiber arts has focused on various aspects of nursing, which has, most recently, been hospice nursing. She lives near Three Oaks in the woods of Southwest Michigan.

Through Yarn Haus, Nelson looks forward to helping others spark their love for working with fiber. She will lead the free community Knit Together events scheduled from 5:30 to 8 p.m. every Wednesday. Beginner knitting classes, led by Zoe Gottstein, will be held on Mondays and Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. beginning Nov. 3. Registration for classes will open Oct. 15 at Goodsandheroes.com.

Goods & Heroes Yarn Haus will be open Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m., and on Tuesdays and Wednesday from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

For more information or to share suggestions, email yarn.haus@goodsandheroes.com or Suzanna@goodsandheroes.com, or follow Yarn Haus onSocial Media (Instagram and Facebook) @GH_yarnhaus. —

STAFF REPORTS

RETIRING LONG BEACH LEADER RECEIVES HIGH HONOR

A Long Beach woman has received a high state honor for her years of leadership and work for the Unity Foundation of La Porte County.

Maggi Spartz was presented with the "Circle of Corydon Award" on Sept. 24 for her contributions to the state.

Spartz, the founding president of the Unity Foundation since 1992, is retiring.

Jon Gilmore, chairman of the Unity Foundation Board of Directors, said the foundation started with no money and Spartz as its only employee.

"Today, Unity has nearly $60 million in assets, and through Maggi's vision and dedication, Unity has transformed itself into a power for good for all the citizens of La Porte County," he said.

Unity Foundation accepts donations from the public and uses the interest earned from those dollars to fund things like scholarships and community projects..

Spartz was presented with the award by State Representative Jim Pressel of Rolling Prairie during an event attended by over 200 community members.

The "Circle of Corydon" is the only award jointly issued and signed by both the Executive and Legislative branches of state government.

"For 33 years, you've been my crew and have shown me what is possible when people care deeply about their community. You have taught me, challenged me, and inspired me. I trust you now more than ever to carry this legacy forward," Spartz told the crowd at the end of the ceremony. — STAN MADDUX

Dunes Arts Summer Theatre to conclude season with 75th anniversary gala, 'Midnight in Paris'

Dunes Arts Summer Theatre's annual gala in support of The Dunes Arts Foundation, Midnight in Paris, will take place from 6 p.m. CST (7 p.m. EST) to 10 p.m. CST (11 p.m. EST) Saturday, Oct. 18, at Uptown Social, 907 Franklin Street in Michigan City, Indiana.

"The Dunes Arts Foundation was formed in 1951 with a big dream to bring a taste of Hollywood to Michigan City," said Artistic Director Steve Scott. "Seventy-five years later we have a lot to celebrate. In addition to audience and critical acclaim for this summer's three major productions, our fourth annual Broadway Cabaret, our third annual New Plays Festival, and our continuing affiliations with the Safe Harbor program for children and the Holdcraft Center, we have grown our series of classes for pre-teens and teenagers. Midnight in Paris will celebrate all of these accomplishments while looking forward to an even more successful 75th anniversary season in 2026."

Dunes Arts Foundation will be celebrating with cocktails, dinner and performances inspired by the theme Midnight in Paris. Raffles and a live auction will take place to raise additional funds for The Dunes Arts Foundation. Guests are encouraged to dress in black tie (optional).

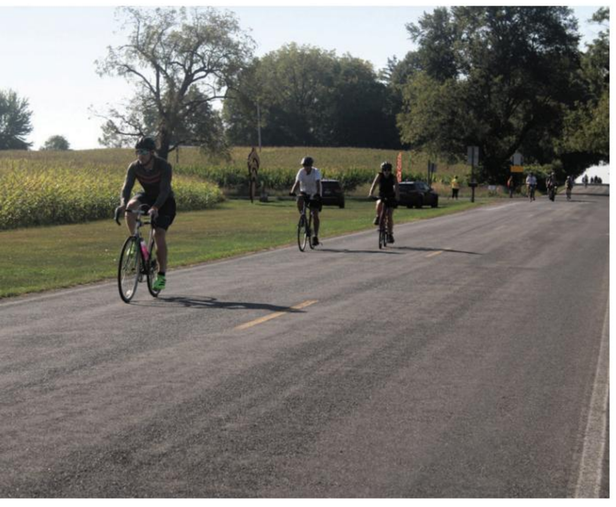
The Dunes Arts Foundation, which operates Dunes Arts Summer Theatre and Education Programs, was incorporated in the State of Indiana in 1951 and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Nestled within the woodsy dunes of Michiana Shores, Dunes Summer Theatre is located about a half mile from the Indiana Dunes and the Lake Michigan shore at 288 Shady Oak Dr, Michigan City, Ind. As northwest Indiana's longest-running summer theater program, Dunes Summer Theatre has provided professional theater productions for more than seven decades. This one-of-a-kind experience is a highlight of Harbor Country's cultural fabric, promoting community spirit and embracing inclusivity, diversity and accessibility in all areas of operations.

For more information or to purchase gala tickets, which are $150, or sponsorship packages, visit www.dunesarts.org or call 219-879-7509.

Follow along on social media @ dunesartsfoundation.

— STAFF REPORTS

Cyclists ride the country roads



Julie Flick and Barbara Ambrose Coyner from the Lions Club pour cider at Oselka Park

Firefighters serve up pancakes

Cyclists hang out in Dewey Cannon Park for the ice cream social

Cyclists unite for annual Apple Cider Century Ride

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

According to Bryan Volstorf almost as soon as diehard cyclists have crossed the finish line at each Apple Cider Century, they're already raring to go for the next one.

"People start signing up at the end of this weekend," Volstorf said.

The 52nd annual ride, which took place Sunday, Sept. 28, had around 3,200 riders, Volstorf said, which is in line with most of the year's numbers. Around 35 states are represented, with 90 percent of riders being from Illinois, Indiana and Michigan, Volstorf said.

The ride starts and ends at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Three Oaks. On the morning of the ride, cyclists enjoy a hearty breakfast that's cooked by the Three Oaks Fire Department. Later, they enjoy an all-you-can-eat spaghetti buffet.

Dave Flick, chief of the fire department, said that they've been serving breakfasts to hungry cyclists for the past 49 years.

"Today, I think we'll probably serve 800 (cyclists)," he said, adding that they usually serve the 100-mile riders at 6 a.m.

Throughout the ride, riders can refuel their bodies with snacks at various SAG stops that are scattered alongside the routes. Volstorf said this is thanks to the 15 different organizations, from the New Buffalo Lions Club to the Rotary Club of Harbor Country to the Friends of New Troy, who pitch in.

"We try to involve as many groups as we can," Volstorf, who said each group is given $1000 for their help, said.

Alos pitching in are Volstorf's family. His son, Tim, along with his daughter-in-law, tackles registration and technology aspects. Daughter Marsha makes the trek from Milwaukee to take care of the T-shirts and the artwork portion.

The event is put on by the Three Oaks Spoke Bicycle Club, of which Volstorf is the president and executive director. He said he's training his son on all aspects of the ride, making him co-executive director of the club.

Volstorf, who's 81, said the most he rides nowadays is 25 miles. The last was the century he rode was 104 miles, when he was 50. That year, long distance riders were bemoaning how "hilly" and "rough" it was to ride the route. So, Volstorf took one of the club's rental bikes, some Gatorade and a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and took off at 8 a.m., riding the whole 100 miles in 10 hours on single speed.

"I came home and collapsed on the couch and said, 'Those guys are right, it is hilly,' and that was the century ride I ever did," Volstorf said.

Cycling has come a long way from that ride. Back then, everyone rode centuries in jeans, shoes and a T-shirt. One year, all the members of the club bought helmets.

"They said, 'Bryan, you must have a10 cent head,' and then I got a helmet,'" he said.

Also nowadays, Volstorf said he's encouraging more of the younger generation of cyclists to hit the road. Currently, anyone under 12 rides free.

"That way, the families come bring the kids and maybe the kids keep coming and the parents too - so we try to build a base on that end," he said.

Amy Butler, who had ridden 100 miles last year, decided to ride 15 miles this year with her husband, Brett, as well as their two children, Noemi and Aoton.

"They came and cheered me on, and they were inspired, and we came back and did it as a family," she said.

The family had just ridden 11 miles in the Tennessee mountains and didn't anticipate that day's excursion being as hilly.

"The energy is good - we like the pancake breakfast and the community," Amy said.

Noemi, Amy, Aoton and Brett Butler pose by the start and finish line

Fritz Melchor and Mark Baltes serve popcorn at Dewey Cannon Park

All Tuned Up performs in Dewey Cannon Park

Pokagon Band lowers its flag in honor of Ernest L. Stevens, Jr.

LONGTIME CHAIRMAN OF THE INDIAN GAMING ASSOCIATION HAS WALKED ON

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan and Indiana announced today that it will lower its flag at half-mast at its government and business locations in honor of Ernest ("Ernie") L. Stevens Jr., a tribal citizen of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin and longtime Chairman of the Indian Gaming Association (IGA). Chairman Stevens walked on Friday, September 26 at the age of 66.

Commenting on the passing of Chairman Stevens, Matthew Wesaw, Tribal Council Chairman for the Pokagon Band said, "Indian Country has lost a tremendous leader in the untimely passing of Ernie Stevens Jr. From his earliest leadership roles, he displayed incredible vision, commitment, empathy and advocacy, with a very humble approach. His dedication and unwavering passion in service to Indian Country is only surpassed by his passion and commitment to his family. Our hearts go out to his wife Cheryl, children and grandchildren. We can only ask that the Creator hold them close and give them comfort and confidence that Ernie's journey will be joyful as he is reunited with friends and family that walked on before him. We share our deepest condolences and sympathy. This is a very unfortunate and premature loss. Rest in peace, my friend."

For more than two decades as Chairman of the IGA, Mr. Stevens was dedicated to his mission of advancing tribal government gaming and strengthening tribal sovereignty. Under his leadership, IGA became one of the most respected and influential voices in Washington, D.C., tirelessly advocating for the rights of tribal nations and safeguarding the integrity of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

Incorporated in 1985 and located on Capitol Hill, IGA is a leading voice for Indian Country, working diligently to ensure that the special status of tribes is recognized and protected when issues affecting tribal sovereignty arise. IGA advocates on behalf of Indian tribes with Congress, the White House and federal agencies. In order to accomplish its mission, IGA often works with Congress and the administration on all Indian Issues under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and the Commerce Clause.

More information on the Indian Gaming Association can be found at www.indiangaming.org/.

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi's sovereignty was reaffirmed under legislation signed into law by President Clinton in September of 1994. The Pokagon Band is dedicated to providing community development initiatives such as housing, education, family services, medical care, and cultural preservation for its more than 6,400 citizens. The Pokagon Band's ten-county service area includes four counties in Southwestern Michigan and six in Northern Indiana. Its main administrative offices are located in Dowagiac, Mich., with a satellite office in South Bend, Ind. In 2007, it opened Four Winds Casino Resort in New Buffalo, Mich., followed by Four Winds Hartford in 2011, Four Winds Dowagiac in 2013 and Four Winds South Bend in 2018. The Pokagon Band operates a variety of non-gaming businesses through its investment enterprises, Mno-Bmadsen and the Pokagon Development Authority. More information is available at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov,www.fourwindscasino.com and www.mno-bmadsen.com. — STAFF REPORTS

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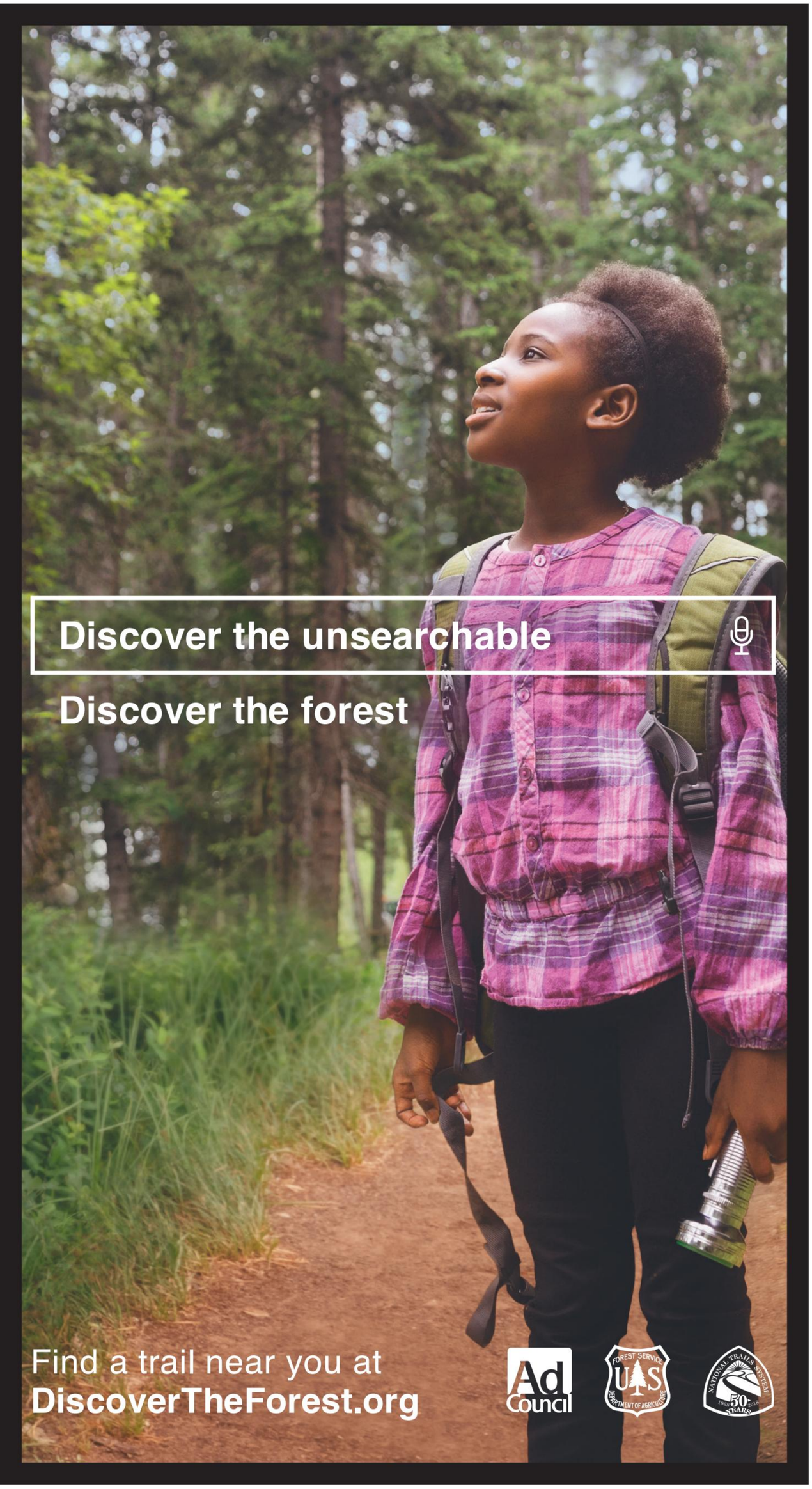

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OBITUARIES

Nancy Anne Baird

1951-2025

Nancy Anne Baird, 73, of Sawyer, passed suddenly, Thursday, September 25, 2025, in the comfort of her husband's presence.

Her life began October 3, 1951 in Warren, Ohio, the youngest and only girl of three brothers born to James and Virginia (nee Loving) Baird. Nancy and Robert have been together for over 20 years.

Nancy spent most of her life in Kent, Ohio. She graduated from Theodore Roosevelt High School and went on to earn both a B.A. and M.A. in Education from Kent State University. While attending Kent State, she lived through the tragic events of May 4th, when four students were killed and nine others wounded by the Ohio National Guard, an experience that left a lasting influence on her life. Nancy taught fourth grade at Longcoy Elementary School for thirty years before retiring. She spent her summers in Sawyer, where she enjoyed the company of family and relatives in homes built by her great-grandfather in the 1920s. She loved Lake Michigan, often walking along the shoreline to collect crinoids and beach glass. Later in life, Nancy reconnected with Bob, whom she had first met thirty-five years earlier. Together they lived happily in South Dakota before settling permanently in Michigan with their beloved dog, Casey McDuff. Nancy was an active member of many communities, including the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Honorary Society in Ohio, Chikaming Country Club, and she served as secretary for the Stewardship Committee of Chikaming Open Lands. A devoted golfer, she played for many years and even won the nine-hole Ladies Championship. She had a wide range of hobbies—attending movies, dining out, playing games and solving crossword puzzles, and pursuing her passion for interior design. Nancy cherished her game group and book club friends in Shorewood Hills. Outgoing, conversational, and full of joy, Nancy loved people and made friends easily.

Nancy will be greatly missed by family and friends. She is survived by her beloved husband, Robert Tatina of Sawyer; step-daughter, Heather Adams of Mitchell, South Dakota; sister-in-law, Bobbi Baird of Kent, Ohio, and her family Courtney and Paul Clark and their sons Anderson and Jackson of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; in-laws of Jim Baird III, Lori and Jim Stone of Kent, Ohio and their daughters Michelle and Clare Stone; cousins, Kristy (Steven) Pokorny of Riverwoods, Illinois, Ginny (Mitchell) Novak of St. Charles, Illinois, and Debbie (Bill) Corcoran of Springfield, Missouri; the Borchers, Loving, and Greenwood families; and special friends, the Tarpley and the Zimmerman families.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and three brothers, Jim, Doug, and Bob Baird.

Family and friends will gather Thursday, October 2, 2025 from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. in Wagner Family Funerals Pobocik Chapel, 106 Ash Street East, Three Oaks. A memorial service will be held, Friday, October 3, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. in Three Oaks United Methodist Church, 2 East Sycamore Street, Three Oaks, Michigan 49128.

The family prefers contributions in memory of Nancy be made to The ALS Foundation, 24359 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Southfield, Michigan 48075 or www.alsofmichigan.org., to Three Oaks United Methodist Church, 2 East Sycamore Street, Three Oaks, Michigan 49128 or to Chikaming Open Lands, 12291 Red Arrow Highway, Sawyer, Michigan 49125.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Pobocik Chapel, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online at www.wagnercares.com.

A Writer's Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

Clawing my way through research

Lori was, of course, right about Heathcliff and Garfield: two entirely different cats – different in mindsets, attitudes and personalities. She'd done her homework early on, investigating Garfield because she knew comparisons were likely to come up, and then she leaped into the deep end of Heathcliff.

I was coming into Heathcliff and the Catillac Cats a lot later than her, so I had to do the same...and fast! Fortunately, I loved doing research. And so I, too, jumped into the deep end of Heathcliff.

I came to understand how, to the casual observer, Heathcliff and Garfield could be mixed up, even interchangeable. They were both orange tabbies and both had big bellies. But as I dug, read scripts and did research, I found that was where the similarities ended. In fact, they were diametric opposites. Yeah, both had owners and lived in a house. But Garfield was a house-cat. Heathcliff was definitely the outdoors type. He loved to roam the neighborhood and get into all sorts of wonderful trouble!

And where Garfield was a lazy slug, Heathcliff was an energetic entrepreneur/rapscallion/scam artist. And I said"artist" because Heathcliff was unquestioningly artful in all did. As I viewed the videocassette episodes of Heathcliff, I found a cat who loved to pull off schemes that would net him ever increasing amounts of fish. He was tough – surely the toughest cat in the neighborhood. But I also found he was a true romantic.

A schemer and rapscallion, an entrepreneur, a tough dude and a romantic at heart. Hmmmm... Sounded like someone I knew. I had a feeling Lori knew what she was doing when she put Jack Olesker on this series. This was my kind of series, my kind of cat. Each episode of Heathcliff and The Catillac Cats had two separate eleven-minute stories – one starring famous – some would say infamous – Heathcliff and his buddies, and the other with newcomers The Catillac Cats, featuring their leader, Riff Riff.

I barely knew Heathcliff and I knew nothing about The Catillac Cats until Lori dumped four floppy discs and four videocassettes with series episodes on my desk just before telling me I was to be Heathcliff and The Catillac Cats' new story editor.

My initial reading of Heathcliff scripts and episodes featuring the lovable ne'er-do-well, was a delight. What was a total surprise The Catillac Cats were! I raced through reading all four scripts from Season One's sixty-five episode run. Next I viewed videocassettes of The Catillac Cats stories. They had me at hello.

I loved The Catillac Cats. I loved Riff Raff, their leader. I loved Wordsworth, who roller skated around the neighborhood with headphones on and spoke in rhymes. Muscled Mungo and Hector – a tough-talking street-smart cat with a New Jersey accent, convinced he should be the gang's leader – rounded out the irresistible group.

Then there was Cleo. Heathcliff's girlfriend, Sonja, was cute. But Cleo was in a whole different league. If I was a cat, I guarantee I'd be dating Cleo. Add in all of them living in a junkyard kingdom and it was a can't-miss concept.

I learned Heathcliff and the Catillac Cats was created by Jean Chalopin and the French cartoonist Bruno Bianchi. But the series had Jean written all over it. Riff Raff's a whimsically romantic character, a creative genius who aspires to greatness and leads all who followed his siren's song. This was Jean's baby, all right, and I was loving it.

HOROSCOPE

OCTOBER 2-8, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

There is a tendency to prove yourself this week and you may attract those who would take advantage of your showmanship or use it to their ends. Be true to yourself but don't take on too much. You may end up spending too much money or time on things that may not be to your benefit.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

There is a vigorous, practical energy headed your way this week. Use it to get things cleaned up and organized. You may focus on work to avoid emotional issues with partners or family, which will ultimately give them the space they need to figure out their own messes.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

It will be easy to get caught up in daydreams and romantic fantasies this week. Just don't mess up your work schedule or ignore important chores because your head is in the clouds. Stay on task when at work and don't get distracted by social media. Make room for fun, after the work is done.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

The vibe coming at you this week will make you feel more self-reliant and confident. When it comes to feeling secure or getting the job done, you'll be better off doing it yourself now. Friends and neighbors may be a little absent minded. So, better to avoid mishaps and go solo.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

It will be very easy to come off too strong this week. Don't be afraid to walk away from stressful situations in order to cool down and process your feelings. Even if your feelings are valid, things can easily escalate, and you don't want your words used against you later.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

You will be ready for the long hours this week. The vibes coming at you now are giving you an extra boost to accomplish physical tasks and handle financial issues head-on. Even if you think your resources are in short supply, somehow you will make it work and come out ahead.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

There will be a tendency to rush through things or gloss over issues this week. It's important that you pay attention when working to avoid accidents. Be sure you pay attention to details when going over paperwork because it will be easy to miss important information now.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVERMBER 21

The vibe this week will feel quite energetic and lively. Be sure to let your hair down and get moving. If you don't, or if someone tries to suppress your good time, you may become stubborn or worse, passive aggressive. Don't be afraid to leave the party poopers behind.

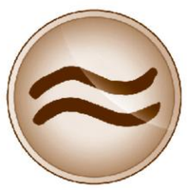
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

You will feel quite energized this week and may instigate some sticky situations, if you're not careful. People have a tendency to be overly sensitive to you now. Rather than pushing buttons and getting situations riled up, be the peacemaker. Let your words be helpful and constructive.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

This week you will be feeling much more driven to succeed and utilize your executive powers. Use this energy to not only get big projects finished but get paid. Friends or social gatherings may try to interfere with your ability to get things accomplished but they are no match for your work ethic now.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



Your mind will be extra sharp this week and unfortunately your temper will be also. Don't rush into ideas or jump to conclusions. It's important you look at the big picture before getting upset over tiny details. Now is the time to honor curiosities by investigating them, before employing them.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

The atmosphere around you this week will be quite hearty and robust. You won't be afraid to get down and dirty, if the job calls for it. When getting directions or instructions from others be sure to write things down and ask for clarification. It will be easy to get things turned around now.

It takes character to sit with all that cash and to do nothing. I didn't get where I am by going after mediocre opportunities. — *Charlie Munger*

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7		4	8			5		
		1			2		7	
9						8	3	1
							5	
		7		4		9		
4	7			8				
		2	9	5				
		8						

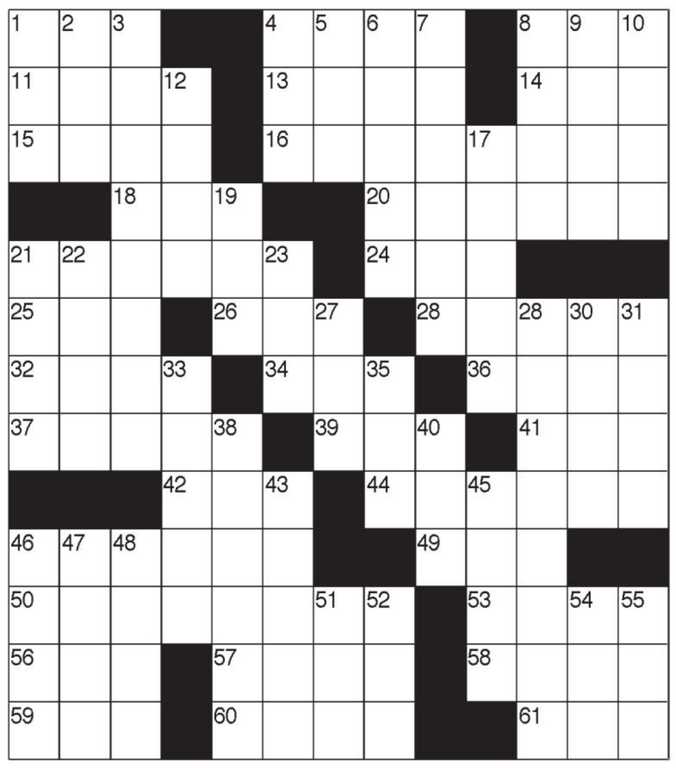
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Accomplished
4 Ammunition
8 Unfavorable
11 Original sinner
13 Spurt
14 Here (Fr.)
15 Ottoman peasant
16 Fr. month
18 Banned pesticide
20 Charm
21 Parent of Agamemnon
24 Nothing
25 Spelling contest
26 Sheep's cry
28 State (Ger.)
32 Winglike
34 Uncouth person
36 Pelvic bones
37 Phil. island
39 Field
41 Cetacean
42 Hebrew letter
44 Gastropod
46 Butterfly
49 No (Scot.)
50 Asian
53 Academy (abbr.)
56 Antiaircraft artillery (abbr.)
57 Nipa palm
58 Southern France
59 Pounds (abbr.)
60 Cant
61 Ambassador (abbr.)

DOWN

1 Daughters of the American Revolution (abbr.)
2 Mountain on Crete
3 Reverie
4 Signed (abbr.)
5 Color
6 Ancient Italian
7 One of the Twelve Titans
8 Bibliography (abbr.)
9 Land measure
10 Legislature
12 Created
17 Many times more than (pref.)
19 Cask
21 Down with (Fr., 2 words)
22 Web
23 Skin vesicle
27 Mulberry of India
29 Baldness
30 Irish nobleman
31 Diplomacy
33 Fiber plant
35 Ancient stringed instrument
38 Of a reign
40 Own (Scot.)
43 Prairie copse
45 Lady's title
46 Ember
47 Saracen
48 Geological epoch
51 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
52 Licensed practical nurse (abbr.)
54 Admiral (abbr.)
55 Fish with bait on the surface



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To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

EAT TO BEAT DIABETES

Your fork is the most powerful tool for your health. What you choose to load it with can either bring you great health, or take you down into disease, pain and suffering.

To prevent diabetes, focus on a balanced diet of whole grains, non-starchy vegetables, fruits, good proteins, and healthy fats. Prioritize foods high in fiber to stabilize blood sugar, such as whole grains like brown rice andoatmeal, and non-starchy vegetables like leafy greens and broccoli. Include proteins such as beans, legumes, evensome fish and chicken, along with healthy fats from sources like avocados, nuts, and olive oil. Limit foods with added sugars, refined grains, and all processed foods, as these can increase blood sugar and insulin resistance.

Refined grains are white flours, pasta, crackers, cookies, and such. Refining modifies food from their natural form. Modification involves the mechanical removal of bran and germ, ridding the living enzymes, fiber and nutrients. Refined grains will spike your blood sugar, increase hunger and cause weight gain. With the fiber being removed, it will eventually cause digestive and microbiome disruption. Diets high in refined grains are associated with increased risks of heart disease, cancersand diabetes. It can also cause severe constipation.

Fruits like berries, apples and melons are great for keeping your blood sugar balanced. It is better to eat the fruits in their whole form rather than juicing them, which could be too concentrated and cause a spike in your blood sugar.

Keep hydrated by drinking lots of pure water and herbal teas. Ridding all refined sugar drinks. The body's balance of fluids is about maintaining metabolic harmony. When blood sugar levels rise, glucose pulls water from tissues, which can lead to dehydration. Consistent water intake supports kidney function by aiding in the removal of excess glucose through urine.

Keep your focus on high fiber foods. These will help slow digestion and keep your blood sugar more balanced. Also focus on Complex carbohydrates (not refined) and healthy fats. This will help sustain fullness so you will not overeat and want to snack.

If you feel you do need a snack later, be mindful to keep it healthy. A piece of fruit, a small unsweetened yogurt or a spoonful of hummus and a couple of crackers. Also be sure not to eat too late in the evening. If you eat your dinner at 6 or 7, you should not need a snack before bed time. If you eat much earlier, a snack may be in order.

The longer you eat this way, the healthier your body will become overall. In fact, an earlier bedtime is also part of a healthier lifestyle and keeping your blood sugar balanced. Eight hours is a great goal to try to get every night for the best health.

There are many books to help you out if you are on a journey for better health. Start with your local Library. A top seller: Glucose Revolution the Life-Changing Power of Balancing Your Blood Sugar - by Jessie Inchauspe.

PET OF THE WEEK

ELMO

Elmo is almost a year old old, but is a big, tall kitten, and a true comedian. He is neutered, and his vaccinations are up-to-date. From pipe cleaners, catnip, and your attention, Elmo will love you. He'll remember with a short attention span. He loves affection and will cuddle when possible, but might be on the move after a rub. Make Elmo part of your home today.

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New Buffalo Times
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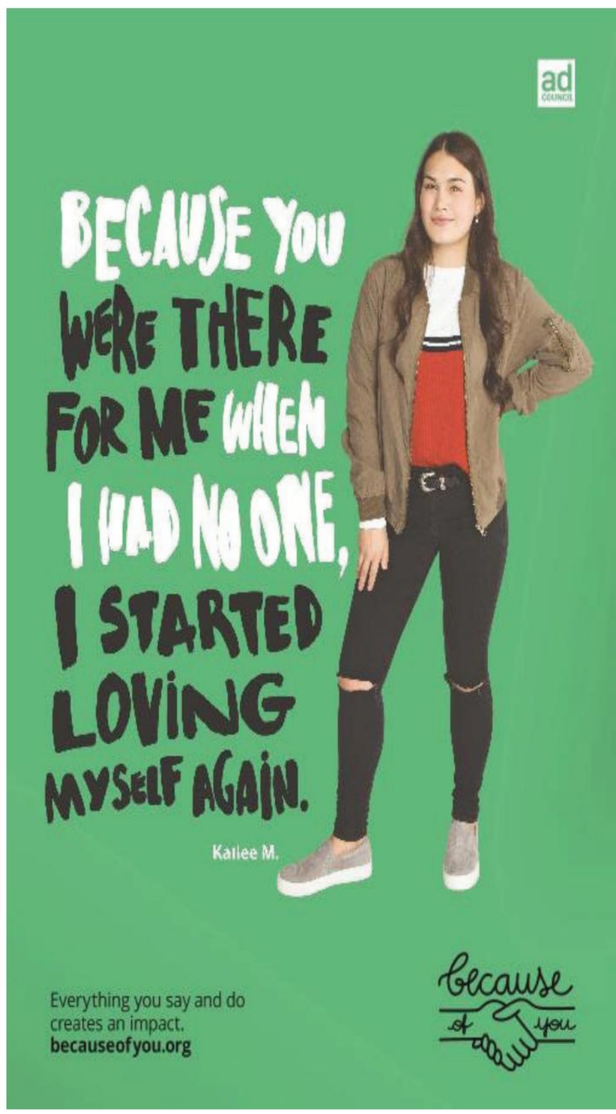
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The Fairyland Theater in the early 1900s

Bill Lindblom, Jon Vickers and Zach Hackett speak at The Vickers Theatre

Area's movie origins traced during 'Michiana at the Movies'

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

The first movie that was shown in Three Oaks, which was screened at a Methodist church in the spring of 1905, wasn't met with rave reviews.

According to Nick Bogert, vice president of The Region of Three Oaks Board of Directors, Three Oaks' Acorn reported that "to some of the church members certain features were very distasteful" and that, during one, the "machine operator might lead young people to believe under extenuating circumstances, certain lawlessness is proper."

So began Three Oak's storied history of movies, which was explored at a "Michiana at the Movies" fundraiser for the museum at Vickers Theatre in Three Oaks Tuesday, Sept. 23.

Bogert said an ad boasted movies being shown at The Acorn Opera House, which was owned by E.K. Warren and was in the parking lot next to Vickers, by E.K.'s son, Paul, in October 1907.

With the rise in popularity of the "nickel movie," three other theaters sprang up in Three Oaks: The Princess, The Idle Hour and The Fairyland (where Alapash Housewares is located).

Bogert said that, while accounts state that Frank Lee, who owned The Princess, originally owned The Fairyland with Clarence Perham, Frank and his wife, Ada, were soon the ones running it with their musical family. Moving pictures were just part of the show, as an advertisement boasted live vaudeville shows accompanied by two picture reels and up-to-date song slides, which would be accompanied by live singing. Glass slides were shown on early image projector, a magic lantern.

Per "The Region of Three Oaks," in 1922, "radio concerts" were given after Frank installed one of the "very best radio phone and loud talkers in the world" to provide "radio concerts." In 1929, the first sound movie, "The Pagen" starring Ramon Navarro.

When Frank's daughter, Beatrice and husband, Fred McGrath, became more involved in the 1930s, the theatre moved a few doors to the south at The Vicker's current location and was the site of a livery and feed store, which was owned by Ada's father. In 1939, the first film to be shown at "Lee's Theatre" was "At the Circus" starring the Marx Brothers.

In 1973, the McGraths sold the theater. By the 1990, Bogert said, it was vacant.

In 1994, Jon Vickers and his wife, Jennifer, purchased it and spent two and a half years rebuilding it. The couple, along with some help, "gutted it, got down to studs or what was left of the studs" and started "putting it back together" and added the balcony.

"I was around 30 at the time and I was a healthy young man - by the end of the process, I had asthma," he said.

Jon said he ran more art films, which he and Jennifer often saw in Chicago.

"That's one of the beauties of being a curator - you get to impose some of your tastes and love of things on different people," he said.

They did a "Sounds of Silent Film Fest" for 10 years, which consisted of silent films and live music outdoors and indoors. The first show recieved a "greta review" from famed movie critic Roger Ebert.

After heading to Indiana University to open the Indiana University Cinema, Vickers handed the reins to Joe and Judy Scully.

Partner Bill Lindblom, who managed the theatre for 10 years, said he and the Scullys thought it could "run itself."

"I felt like we were just caretakers of this place, we were just making sure it kept living and breathing – it's all the people that come to this place that really make it what it is," he said.

Bill became known for delivering a "pre-show" presentation, which began when no one was buying tickets to see Rita Chiarelli, who was on tour performing along with her documentary on bringing music to inmates.

"We got a pretty good crowd," he said.

In December 2022, Zach Hackett purchased it.

He said he had no history of film, theatre or commercial properties; however, he did decide to play first run films there, with 2023's "Barbie" proving to be successful.

"I knew how special this (The Vickers) was, and I knew how special Three Oaks was and I sort of just gambled...I feel very much like this is Three Oaks' theatre - and I just get this distinction of choosing what we play," he said.

Currently, Hackett said there are less than 5,000 theaters like The Vickers left in the country.

Jon said he believes The Vickers will stand the test of time, though.

"Theatres like this, where the experience is an experience, are going to be around for a long time," he said.

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